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April 15, 2002

FILE No. 001846-1447

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FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

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F. Caton
Decemy
Communications Commission
The Secretary
Street, SW
T. DC 20054

Re: Ex Parte - Consolidated Application of EchoStar Communications Corporation, Hughes Electronics Corporation, and General Motors Corporation for Authority to Transfer of Control (CS Docket No. 01-348)

Hughes Electronics Corporation ("Hughes") and General Motors Corporation creby submit documents in response to the Commission's February 4, 2002 Initial or and Document Request (the "Request"). The documents are being provided to the Request, as clarified in our February 21, 2002 procedural meeting, in the manner cour letter dated February 28, 2002 and in the joint letter from EchoStar criticus Corporation ("EchoStar"), Hughes and GM dated March 5, 2002. The material sponsive to the Request is being provided by person and organized by responsive ander. We are continuing to review the collected documents from the sources are the Commission and will produce responsive documents on a rolling basis as

This production includes some documents that are public and some that are I wo copies of the public documents are provided herewith. One copy of the documents is being submitted with the version of this cover letter marked a Filing: Not for Public Inspection" and is being filed under seal with the FCC office and should not be placed in the public record in this proceeding. Two copies and confidential documents are also being delivered to Marcia Glauberman and al. The confidential documents submitted by GM and Hughes are marked

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555 ELEVENTH STREET, N.W., SUITE 1000 • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004-1304 ABCOS
TELEPHONE: (202) 637-2200 • FAX: (202) 637-2201

THAL INFORMATION – SUBJECT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER IN CS DOCKET with a submitted in accordance with the Protective Order adopted in this and ordenium 7, 2002. Because almost all of the documents submitted are confidential arrivery we are not submitting redacted copies of the documents. Attached as Exhibit A the confidential documents by Bates number. Further, we are not producing privileged as a subject to attorney-client privilege).

Hughes and GM have exercised good faith in the review of documents to the commission's request and will continue to do so. Should there destions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Alex Hoehn-Saric

Counsel for General Motors Corporation and Hughes Electronics Corporation

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Exhibit A
Hughes Electronics Corporation Response to FCC Initial Request for Information dated February 4, 2002
Log of Confidential Documents Provided to FCC on April 5, 2002

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Hughes Electronics Corporation Response to FCC2A000000845 – FCC2A0000000057 Initial Request for Information dated February 4, 2002

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Patrick Donovan <pdonovan@ucentric.com> on 06/11/2001 10:28:00 AM

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\sqrt{s}(c) . The multiple emails, but I came across another interesting article.
 A cut this excerpt regarding the ComboBox by Bell Canada
 is the highest already been grasped by Bell Canada Enterprises (BCE), Owner
 anach's Bell ExpressVu DBS service and Bell Sympatico's high speed DSL
 form. BCE recently announced that it was integrating the two in a single
      omboBox." It's being built by Echostar Communications, which is
 top
 raty | .11 ExpressVu's prime receiver supplier.
 intage ating its satellite and landline networks, BCE will enjoy the very
cientics outlined above, says Tom Hope, the CTO at BCE subsidiary Bell
acas but that's not all: thanks to the ComboBox's planned 40 Gb hard
year the already found in the Echostar PRO 501 set-top box--this carrier
 also figured out "how to provide Video on Demanda" he says.
eryboly has been thinking about network storage and then immediate delivery
       transport network," Hope explains. "Well, the ComboBox allows you to
rios: the top six movies Edirectly to the box via satellitel, and they sit
re III the set-top's hard drivel encrypted and secure. Then, if the user
is to watch them, they play immediately and with full VCR functionality. ^{\prime\prime}
in contined Fusion-Ucentric set top could to the same thing)
atlane Internet Business: The Good, The Bad And The Fuss Over Fiber
a aps Eusiness Information: Friday, June &, 2001
control o
1 10 - 2001 (VIA Satellite/Phillips Publishing via COMTEX) -- When it comes
sate lites and the Internet, the news is both bad and good. It's bad for
ass : Pering interconnecting terrestrial Internet backbones, or other
intel epoint applications. But it's good for those carriers offering
int-"
     multipoint satellite Internet delivery.
put to another way, "satellite is not good for point-to-point, unless it's
s or) option available. says Stephen Blum, president of Tellus Venture
sections. However, "For point-to-multipoint it's a killer. You can't beat
te.11 ≥ ".
\omega can two such contradictory views apply to the same telecom sector? Easy-
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we can two such contradictory views apply to the same telecom sector? Easyintelemultipoint services exploit satellite technology's unique edge: they were time hemispheres from a single point in space, and use that position there billions.

converge point-to-point satellite links merely mimic the capabilities of three leaf tiper optic networks. Given the explosive growth of those two hards a especially transoceanic--satellite point-to-point Internet links of firsting themselves increasingly under siege.

Time: Multipoint: Looks Like Good News

we splak of point-to-multipoint satellite Internet service, we're ally ralking about those carriers who link customers directly to the Webwe entalking about satellite ISPs operated by companies such as Hughes on Sections (HNS) and Gilat.

v the least, both these companies have been busy staking claims to $\ensuremath{\mathsf{up}} \ensuremath{\mathsf{ace}}$

costs on in January 2001, Hughes announced its "DirecTV Broadband Powered rec" consumer product. Aimed at the company's existing nine million DBS rober of "Powered by DirecPC" provides two-way high-speed Internet access tell ten with a downstream speed of 400 kbps and a return path of 124 of weeten the deal. Hughes is also packaging over 225 DirecTV channels, the aring it all through a single "DirecDuo" dish at each receive site.

rise key element in the Hughes strategy to bring 'infotainment' rigen a home." says Paul Gaske. HNS' executive vice president and general general is in the new service was announced in Las Vegas. "With the addition in an action our other 'Powered by' partners [such as America Online. Think and Juno]. DirecPC will now be marketed to a combined base of overallic existing subscribers of television and Internet services in the and Strass."

while Silat's Starband Communications passed the 25,000 subscriber mark hit is of this year. Given the service was launched a few short months this is quite an accomplishment, and one that Starband CEO and co-chain element exults about.

construction a year Starband has gone from a business plan to over 25,000 with the an national distribution channels, and an infrastructure to support 4 mars from consumers still waiting for high-speed Internet access," he have all continue to execute against a key company objective; to bring the finternet access to virtually everyone, everywhere, in the United

. The effort justified? If satellite ISPs perform as well as DBS has to a fractive yes.

individuo Blum, U.S. DBS penetration will hit 18 million subsithis year and and son by 2010. That's one out of out of every three households diving TV from space, on applatform that—as Hughes has correctly deduced—cann ligh-speed Internet as well.

ang mitters better--and how often can one say that these days?--is that DBS conib has not only earn more money than the general population--a median hase if \$48.200 versus \$38.885--but are also the kind of consumers about his lateral fantasizes according to Michael Goodman, a senior analyst the lankee Group.

DSS subscribers are even more attractiven Goodman adds. They've got a same some of \$55.800π andπ on median averagen are 41.4 years old.

5-10 saint: The News Looks Bad

ries: qlance one would expect point-to-point satellite Internet to be as wisic as point-to-multipoint. After all, "today the number one opportunity rill laternet backbone connectivity," says Gina Dolan, Intelsat's senior will amager for Internet.

μ 3t. the problem? Two words: terrestrial networks- Armed with everγγαμίο βρότο of fiber optic-based bandwidth, the world's terrestrial.

THON

Pars the in a position to cut prices, and make satellite point-to-point's term of dim indeed.

at it oruntly, "fiber is reducing opportunities in the core business,"
Bart Tebowitz, NetSat Express' former president and COO, and now a

Carer of agrees. A research manager for Frost & Sullivan's communications Services Group. Caressi recently told delegates to the LITE 2001 conference that "where satellite has been used to trunk must confic in metropolitan regions --particularly in China a few years with chready been replaced by fiber."

ake mothers worses it's not just inter-city fiber capacity that's growing. also coternational capacitys as submarine cables reach across the oceanss at fiver optic web strangling satellite traffic at the neck.

sig i this growth? Well, within the next two years, there will be about 3 Gbp." worth of terrestrial bandwidth available in the South Asian on. Sivs Stephan Beckert, TeleGeography's director of traffic research. while about 7,000 Gbps of fiber will connect the United States to Europe, 5,500 Gbps will run between the United States and Asia.

by the high another ways just one of these new cables can carry more traffic the highest entire satellite fleet combined. Small wonder that those in highest highest about satellite point-to-point's viability; especially round is happened to international point-to-point telephone traffic by all the force the workhorse of this sector, traffic has declined so much there are no longer any such links between the United States and Germany. Beck his nor the United States and Japan. His conclusion? "The telephone traffic has come to an end."

Hall this is going on terrestrial wireless carriers are also hemming in this companies says Jean-Francois Gambart. Alcatel's vice president of this and business development.

erres mial carriers are allowed to continue grabbing spectrum-- notably bi wi cless and other broadband applications--then Gambert fears the little industry's future will be put "at risk-"

: "Te Tultipoint Has Its Internet Challenges Too

we ye ditch all your Internet point-to-point traffic in favor of t-to-multipoint, you should know this latter application has its problems where y capacity.

plus' ate this point, Blum points to Starband. Based on his data. Starband s to accommodate at least 20,000 subscribers per transponder to make a star now Blum estimates the company's got about 4,500 on each.

marks these are early days for Starband; given times it will likely hit marks But what about broadband? Wells that's where things start to fall to B's m says.

inable rem say that Starband users start to download 220 kbps video and the kind already being delivered by PBS. According to Blum, a single spin in can only support about 200 such users. Even if they turn off the orall switch to 16 kbps streamed mono audion the most each transponder can but 35000 users.

messal r If it proves popular--and it already has--broadband Internet that r Id hit satellite ISPs with the double-whammy of lower user-capacity

tighe per-user cost. For a mascent industry, this is just plain bad news. Can be Industry Do? on the mistorical decline of point-to-point satellite traffic, and the tity moblems looming for point-to-multipoint, satellite carriers are $rak{g}(with)$ some hard choices with respect to the Internet. If they commit selves too much to this medium, they leave themselves open to the -increasing strength of terrestrial competition. But if satellite carriers on the fence, they risk losing this battle before it even begins, by ander og the field at the outset. mat' the answer? If you can't beat 'ema buy 'ema Lying terrestrial networks, satellite carriers can play both sides of the . The can deploy satellites in emerging markets where nothing else $t_{\rm IS}$. Then, as competing terrestrial networks begin to extend their tendrils the wanket, satellite carriers can move their traffic onto their own one on the networks. This allows them to compete head-to-head on cost and rolmore while freeing up their satellites to tackle new opportunities. that' not all a combined approach offers. By using both lite terrestrial networks for Internet service, carriers can direct fig blood on which route makes the most sense. Are 500,000 users trying to tank usly access the latest Victoria's Secret Webcast? Put it up on this its most of your traffic moving within certain localized areas? Save trans ouders: put it on fiber optic lines. thus has already been grasped by Bell Canada Enterprises (BCE). Owner of ga's coll ExpressVu DBS service and Bell Sympatico's high speed DSL form: MCE recently announced that it was integrating the two in a single top amboBox." It's being built by Echostar Communications, which is may F 31 ExpressVu's prime receiver supplierwheer ting its satellite and landline networks. BCE will enjoy the very percors outlined above, says Tom Hope, the CTO at BCE subsidiary Bellaa E L that's not all: thanks to the ComboBox's planned 40 Gb hard :-- c s already found in the Echostar PRO 501 set-top box--this carrier misc rigared out "how to provide Video on Demanda" he says. rybe. Has been thinking about network storage and then immediate delivery uch a transport network," Hope explains. "Well, the ComboBox allows you to lead the top six movies Edirectly to the box via satellitel, and they sit e fin the set-top's hard drivel encrypted and secure. Them, if the user γ to γ toh them, they play immediately and with full VCR functionality." Carr mens Accept Integrated Solutions? worm yes. is the ause people "don't care how you move their traffic," says Kay g. We estar's vice president of voice data and Internet services. "They war a good connection to the Internet." α of : very simple fact, satellite industry experts are "predicting Prime P on a service level, rather than on a technology level, asses Blum. $\chi(ve)$ ie going to see over time are hybrid networks that use terrestrial point to-point, and an overlay of broadcast broadband coming in via 111t. "

it wildes. In fact, he believes it's starting to happen right now. After

Twe's all heard announcements of Intelsat or Panamsat becoming a

nical ons solutions provider. Beckert says. Trather than a satellite my ω only sells transponders. T

ing the Future Successfully

lys 'n approach being espoused here runs counter to satellite industry much. In fact, the last 50 years have seen people pitting satellites is largelines in a kind of transmission "Holy War," as if respect for one discount for the other.

ate. He industry can no longer afford this kind of thinking if it's us about the Internet as a long-term proposition. The development of mate. All voice telecommunications is a warning: where satellites pioneers stream networks profit. The only way to win is to be in both.

urse satellite carriers can ignore this advice. In doing some howeverment of themselves more and more squeezed out of the best markets—

Typic of world urban centers—and increasingly dependent on the worst:

y the runal third world.

isn' a value judgement; it's just that the first world has more money to ten! becommunications. Unfortunately, the third world doesn't: that's prate itellite telephony has yet to live up to its potential.

also thy Iridium and Globalstar found themselves in such deep trouble. By ine they launched, terrestrial competitors had skimmed the rich cream of timely's market. Granted, you still can't get cellular phone service at an at North Poles or in the Australian Outback. But just how money is made by supplying satellite services to these regions? Not much ast the enough to keep most for-profit businesses alive.

 $x \in y$ of for point-to-point and point-to-multipoint satellite Internet ders while it's time to take a hard look at adding terrestrial networks. Aday: satellite alone just isn't enough.

ware was is a contributing writer to Via Satellite.

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Two Way Satellite Delivered Internet

Satellite delivered internet has been around for some time. DirecPC and other systems have utilized the broadband capability of geostationary satellites to deliver the high bandwidth data stream from Internet servers to the end user. The outgoing requests for WWW pages and files use a normal dial up ISP. The requested data is routed through the satellite to the end users satellite system and into their PC at rates of around 400 Kbps. This data rate may seem small for those who have the luxury of a good cable modem connection or DSL, but it is a welcome alternative for people in underserved communities. The one drawback is having to subscribe to an ISP to service the outgoing requests, thus having to pay an ISP as well as the satellite service provider. Another drawback is that the system ties up a phone line. This may seem trivial, but having to lease another phone line adds to the total system cost, as well as keeping a phone line in use while on the Internet.

Two systems are planning to launch satellite delivered internet that will use a satellite link to send requests to the internet, thus eliminating the need for a telephone line and a separate ISP. This will allow the forward and return paths for data to be completely serviced by satellite. These systems are



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ærk <u>p∌con</u>tin ∵for Imilisit**e**. serviced by satellite. These systems are <u>DirecPC</u> (backed by <u>Hughes Network</u> <u>Systems</u>) and the <u>Gilat-To-Home</u> Internet Service (backed by VSAT operator <u>Gilat</u>, <u>MSN</u> and <u>EchoStar</u>). Both systems are targeting the last quarter of 2000 for system launch.

The DirecPC system will utilize the current PanAmSat Ku band satellite, but plans to use the new Spaceway satellite platform that is planned for 2003. The Spaceway satellite operates in the Ka band. DirecPC expects the forward or uplink data speed (into the Internet) to be between 128 Kbps and 256 Kbps. (It is unclear if many users will share this uplink data channel, or if users will be able to transmit data at 128 or 256 Kbps. I suspect that many users will share the uplink data channel.) Downlink or return data speeds (from the Internet) to burst to 400 Kbps for each user, just as the current DirecPC system operates today.

The Gilat-To-Home system will use an unnamed satellite that will be adjacent to satellites in the EchoStar fleet in order to use a single receive antenna to simultaneously receive the EchoStar TV product and the Gilat-To-Home product. The system boasts downlink speeds at 10 times normal modem speeds (which I interpret as between 400 to 500 Kbps), with burst speeds 'considerably higher'. I could not find any information on the uplink speeds expected for the Gilat-To-Home product.

In the past, private <u>VSAT</u> networks were an expensive proposition for remote businesses. I see great potential for utilizing these systems as a low cost solution for remote business offices, offering users high speed access to e-mail, internet and other high speed data services.

The one broadband satellite system that I have not mentioned is <u>Teledesic</u>. This system boasts a constellation of 288 satellites that will cover 95% of the earth's

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